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Attorney Docket No. SEL 308

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al

Serial No.: 10/098,688

Filed: March 15, 2002

Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: Bret P. Chen

For: HEAT TREATMENT APPARATUS AND

HEAT TREATMENT METHOD

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on <u>January</u> 15,

2004

Cristie M. Noll

Date: January 15, 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

C

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, as revised on February 4, 1992, 1135 OG 23-24, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that the attached list sets forth a comprehensive investigation of the prior art, that any or all are pertinent to the invention, or that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention.

The citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not 01/22/2004 BSAYASI1 00000070 10098688

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possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

A first office action, notice of allowance or issue fee notification has been received in this case, so a check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed. If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark J. Murphy

Registration No.: 34,225

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EXAMINER:

<u> </u>						
	RADEMAR	N OFF	Atty Docket No. SEL 308	<u>Serial No.</u> 10/098,688		
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS CITED BY APPLICANT			<u>Applicant</u> Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al			
•			<u>Filing Date</u> March 15, 2002	<u>Group</u> 1762		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	US 2002/ 0197785 A1	12/26/02	Yamazaki et al	438	225	03/15/02
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	APPLICANT	English Abstract	English Trans.	FILING DATE
OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article or item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published).						

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP form. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED: